

State Department concludes that "Ecuador faces an increasing threat to its internal stability due to spillover effects from Colombia at the same time that deteriorating economic conditions in Ecuador limit Government of Ecuador, GOE, budgetary support for the police."

The State Department's March 2001 country program fact sheet reports that "Peru is now the second largest producer of coca leaf and cocaine base. Peruvian traffickers transport the cocaine base to Colombia and Bolivia where it is converted to cocaine. There is increasing evidence of opium poppy cultivation being established under the direction of Colombian traffickers." The fact sheet continues "[f]or the fifth year in a row, Peruvian coca cultivation declined from an estimated 115,300 hectares in 1995 to fewer than an estimated 34,200 hectares in 2000 (a decline of 70 percent since 1995). The continuing [now-suspended] U.S.-Peruvian interdiction program and manual coca eradication were major factors in reducing coca leaf and base production." In addition, "[t]hese U.S. Government supported law enforcement efforts are complemented by an aggressive U.S.-funded effort to establish an alternative development program for coca farmers in key coca growing areas to voluntarily reduce and eliminate coca cultivation. Alternative development activities, such as technical assistance and training on alternative crop production, are provided as long as the community maintains the coca eradication schedule. In Peru, activities include transport and energy infrastructure, basic social services (health, education, potable water, etc.), strengthened civil society (local governments and community organizations), environmental protection, agricultural production and marketing, and drug demand reduction."

With respect to Peru, I also encourage the Department of State to quickly report to Congress the findings on the tragic shutdown on April 20 of this year and the intended future of the air interdiction program.

I encourage my colleagues, and the public, to be sensitive to the current delicate conditions and future developments in these countries. In addition, while I support the additional United States aid for Ecuador and Peru, as requested in the President's FY-2002 budget, for both law enforcement and many needed social programs, I remain concerned that our current efforts lack coherence or clear-sightedness. I will say again that I fervently want the United States actions to help—and not hurt—Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, on this complicated and critical regional counterdrug issue. The goal is to make a difference—not make things worse or simply rearrange the deck chairs.

#### PENDING FISCAL YEAR 2002 DEFENSE BUDGET REQUEST

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, here we go again. Late last week, senior Ad-

ministration officials indicated that the Bush Administration plans to submit to Congress, several months late, a budget request for the Department of Defense that increases the already bloated fiscal year 2001 spending level for that department by \$18.4 billion.

I find it interesting that the Administration has yet to provide the details of this request to the Congress, to the dismay of both parties, but that the dollar amount increase over last year's \$310 billion appropriation is already being widely reported.

This is in addition to the \$6.5 billion supplemental appropriations request that the Senate may consider later this week, most of which is for the Department of Defense.

Where will it end, Mr. President?

While I commend Secretary Rumsfeld for undertaking a long-overdue comprehensive review of our military, I also urge him to consider carefully the impact that any proposed defense increases will have on the rest of the federal budget.

We are already feeling the impact left by the \$1.35 trillion tax cut that this Administration made its number one priority. That tax cut virtually ensures that there can be no defense increases without making deep cuts in other parts of the budget. And the top priorities of the American people, such as saving Social Security and Medicare and providing a Medicare prescription drug benefit, will be that much harder to accomplish.

But it appears that the Administration will propose an increase in defense spending.

I fear that this pending request, coupled with the massive tax cut that has already been signed into law, will lead us down a slippery slope to budget disaster.

#### A TRIBUTE TO GOLD STAR MOTHERS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today I take this opportunity to call to the attention of our colleagues the national convention of the American Gold Star Mothers which began on Sunday, June 24 and concludes tomorrow, June 27, 2001, in Knoxville, TN.

The Gold Star Mothers is an organization made up of American mothers who lost a son or daughter while in military service to our country in one of the wars. The group was founded shortly after the First World War for those special mothers to comfort one another and to help care for hospitalized veterans confined in government hospitals far from home. It was named after the Gold Star that families hung in their windows in honor of a deceased veteran. Gold Star Mothers now has 200 chapters throughout the United States, and its members continue to perpetuate the ideals for which so many of our sons and daughters died.

Over this past Memorial Day weekend, I participated in the Rolling Thunder rally on the National Mall to honor

our Nation's veterans and remember those missing in action. During that time, I personally met some of the Gold Star mothers and was moved by their compassion, their commitment and the sacrifices they and their families have made for our country.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Gold Star Mothers for their many years of dedicated service and congratulating them on the occasion of their national convention.

#### OUTSTANDING SCHOOLS HONORED FOR SERVICE LEARNING

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to recognize a number of schools that are doing an excellent job of encouraging community service by their students. The Nation has always relied on the dedication and involvement of its citizens to help meet the challenges we face. Today, the Corporation for National Service works with state commissions, nonprofits, schools, and other civic organizations to provide opportunities for Americans of all ages to serve their communities.

Learn and Serve America, a program sponsored by the Corporation for National Service, supports service-learning programs in schools and community organizations that help nearly a million students from kindergarten through college meet community needs, while improving their academic skills and learning the habits of good citizenship. Learn and Serve grants are used to create new programs, replicate existing programs, and provide training and development for staff, faculty, and volunteers.

This year the Corporation for National Service has recognized a number of outstanding schools across the country as National Service-Learning Leader Schools for 2001. The program is an initiative under Learn and Serve America that recognizes schools for their excellence in service-learning. These middle schools and high schools have earned their designation as Leader Schools. They serve as models of excellence for their exemplary integration of service-learning into the curriculum and the life of the school. I am hopeful that the well-deserved recognition they are receiving will encourage and increase service-learning opportunities for students in many other schools across the country.

The 2001 National Service Leader Schools are: Vilonia Middle School, Vilonia, AR; Chico High School, Chico, CA; Evergreen Middle School, Cottonwood, CA; Telluride Middle School/High School, Telluride, CO; Seaford Senior High School, Seaford, DE; Space Coast Middle School, Cocoa, FL; P.K. Yonge Developmental Research School, Gainesville, FL; Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, Jacksonville, FL; Lakeland High School, Lakeland, FL; Dalton High School, Dalton, GA; Sacred Hearts Academy, Honolulu, HI; Moanalua Middle School, Honolulu, HI;